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## Sketch of the Life of

# HORACE GREELEY

With Brief Extracts from His Writings and Biographical Notes.

BY JACOB ERLICH.

Published by

## THE CHAPPAQUA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chappaqua, Westchester Co., N. Y. FEBRUARY 3, 1911.



BIRTHPLACE OF GREELEY

## CENTENARY

OF

# HORACE GREELEY,

February 3, 1911.



HORACE GREELEY.

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## HORACE GREELEY

"I send thee, Greeley, words of cheer,
Thou bravest, truest, best of men;
For I have marked thy strong career,
As traced by thine own sturdy pen.
I've seen thy struggles with the foes
That dared thee to the desperate fight,
And loved to watch thy goodly blows,
Dealt for the cause thou deem'st the right.

"Thou'st dared to stand against the wrong
When many faltered by thy side;
In thy own strength hast dared be strong,
Nor on another's arm relied.
Thy own bold thoughts thou'st dared to think,
Thy own great purposes avowed;
And none have ever seen thee shrink
From the fierce surges of the crowd.

"Thou, all unaided and alone,
Didst take thy way in life's young years,
With no kind hand clasped in thy own,
No gentle voice to soothe thy tears.
But thy high heart no power could tame,
And thou hast never ceased to feel
Within thy veins a sacred flame
That turned thy iron nerves to steel.

"I know that thou art not exempt
From all the weaknesses of earth;
For passion comes to rouse and tempt
The truest souls of mortal birth.
But thou hast well fulfilled thy trust,
In spite of love and hope and fear;
And e'en the tempest's thunder-gust
But clears thy spirit's atmosphere.

Thou still art in thy manhood's prime,
Still foremost 'mid thy fellow-men,
Though in each year of all thy time
Thou hast compressed threescore and ten.
Oh, may each blessed sympathy,
Breathed on thee with a tear and sigh,
A sweet flower in their pathway be,
A bright star in thy clear blue sky."

-George D. Prentice.

This booklet is presented to you with the compliments of the Treasurer. If you desire to contribute anything to honor the memory of Horace Greeley (a dollar or more), kindly mail check to Jacob Erlich, 40 West 20th Street, New York, N. Y. The funds will be devoted to the completion of the "Greeley Memorial" at his old home in Chappaqua.

## PREFACE.

H1S brief story of the life of Horace
Greeley was prepared in response to
many requests from the schools. Mr.
Greeley's active career covers a period
of more than forty years, and would require
volumes to do his life's work justice.

The Celebration of the Hundredth Anniversary of his birth will revive useful lessons and stimulate our youth to emulate the noble virtues and heroic patriotism of a great character in our country's history.

J. E.

Chappaqua, N. Y., February, 1911. HE event of the Hundredth Anniversary of the birth of Horace Greeley calls forth the memory of one of America's illustrious men. Poor Farmer's Boy, Printer, Editor, Journalist, Author, Lecturer, Statesman, Anti-Slavery Leader, Philanthropist, and Candidate for the Presidency. Born in Amherst, New Hampshire, February 3, 1811, on his father's farm. The father of Horace Greeley was Zaccheus Greeley; the mother Mary Woodburn.

Greeley's life, it has been said, "is one that every American boy should know. He will find inspiration in it to fight his way against the difficulties in his path, and it will furnish him with an example of what industry, temperance, principle and steadfast courage can accomplish. Not everyone has the natural ability of Horace Greeley, for he was a man of genius, and that means only one out of a great multitude; but the principles of conduct which governed him are equally applicable to every other farmer's son—equally desirable for all boys who have their own way to make in the world."

The family was very poor and all had to join in the farm work. His mother, in addition to doing her housework, did spinning and weaving and helped rake and load hay; during her work she would sing and tell stories which aroused the interest of young Horace. She was a woman of beautiful character and was her son's inspiration. When Horace was five years old, he would ride the horse to plow before going to school, this and other duties cut down Horace's school attendance considerably. He was a precocious lad, who spent all his spare time reading, and read books at four years of age. The school he attended was a one-story, unpainted structure. He was a good speller and an able debater, and always came out ahead at spelling matches and in debate. Evidently the Village Blacksmith saw promise in Horace, as he offered to apprentice him in his shop, but Horace said "he intended to become a printer." With all the hard work of the Greeley family in Amherst, farming resulted in failure and they were compelled to leave; they then tried their luck at Westhaven, Vermont.

## EAGER FOR KNOWLEDGE.

Horace borrowed books everywhere and read every newspaper he could get hold of. One day he came across an advertisement for an apprentice in a newspaper office in the town of Whitehall, N. H., where he went accompanied by his father. This was in 1822. Horace was

then only eleven years old and was not accepted because of his youth. He went home downcast and sorrowful. No new opportunity for employment presented itself until the spring of 1826, when an apprentice was advertised for by the Northern Spectator, East Poultney, Vermont. He footed it from Westhaven and secured the job. For the first six months he worked for his board and then he received forty dollars per year and board. Here he remained about four years. Among the memorable incidents of his East Poultney sojourn was the



HORACE GREELEY'S FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE

case of a fugitive slave, which made an indelible impression on his mind. In a neighboring New York town a young negro had run away from his master and sought refuge in this village. The slave was at work when his master arrived to reclaim him. Everybody was mustered into service—young Horace foremost in the fight—to resist the return of the slave. The master had to leave without his slave. This was the beginning of Greeley's attack on slavery, which never ceased until slavery was no more. He was one of the most effective champions of the cause of freedom. He fought for emancipation till every slave was free.

## MEMORY FOR FACTS.

During his stay at East Poultney, he made a distinct reputation for learning, of which the following reminiscence related by a distinguished New York physician, is an illustration:

"I went to the tavern, put up my horses, and went in to dinner.

There were a good many people present, the sheriff of the county, and an ex-Member of Congress included. I had scarcely begun to eat when my eyes rested upon so singular an object that the morsel remained suspended on my fork-I could do nothing but stare. It was a tall, pale, white-haired gawky boy seated at the further end of the table. He was in his shirt-sleeves and eating with a rapidity and awkwardness I have never seen equalled. He never looked up, nor seemed to pay the least attention to the conversation, which was becoming quite animated. Some measure of an early Congress had been mentioned and a question had arisen how certain members had voted on its final passage. The sheriff, to my boundless astonishment, referred the matter to the Greeley boy, saying, 'Ain't that right, Greeley?' 'No,' said he, without ceasing to eat for an instant. 'Ha,' chimed in the ex-Congressman, 'what did I tell you? I knew I was right.' 'No,' said the gawky boy, 'you're wrong, too.' Then he laid down his knife and fork and gave a history of the measure from its inception to its passage, detailed the state of the parties at the time, stated the vote in dispute, and named the leading speakers for and against the measure. I listened open-mouthed, but what surprised me most was that the company received it as pure gospel and as settling the matter beyond dispute. I never met him again until he was the famous editor of the Tribune."

Greeley was with the Northern Spectator four years, until it discontinued; he then had to look for work elsewhere. Till this time he had never owned an overcoat, but when he was about to leave East Poultney, his friends there presented him with a second-hand overcoat. A long journey on foot never troubled Horace very much. Twice during his apprenticeship he visited his father's family in Peoria, Illinois, between five hundred and six hundred miles distant, walking a great part of the way. His next employment was at Lodi, New York, where he received eleven dollars per month, and then at Erie, Pennsylvania. He would visit his parents whenever possible and invariably divided his earnings with them.

## STARTS FOR NEW YORK.

Finally he determined to turn his steps toward New York. It was now the spring of 1831. He started by way of the Erie Canal boat and Hudson River boat, walking much of the way. He was twenty years of age when he arrived at the Battery, August 17, 1831, rural looking, indeed. Two rules of his life had already been formed. They were the non-use of intoxicants and tobacco. He had ten dollars in his pocket and a scanty wardrobe; he obtained board at two and a half dollars a week and immediately started to look for employment. At the Journal of Commerce office, the editor plainly expressed his conviction that the applicant was a runaway apprentice, and would

not give him work. Horace was about to return home when someone told him about a position which he secured, earning about five or six dollars a week.

He experienced many hardships in his early struggles in New York City, as elsewhere, but with all he succeeded in making a reputation in the newspaper world. After he had been in New York about three years he was invited by James Gordon Bennett to become



YOUNG GREELEY'S ARRIVAL IN NEW YORK.

a partner in starting the New York Herald. This offer was declined, as he was bent upon publishing a newspaper entirely under his own control, and on March 22, 1834, the New Yorker appeared. He issued this paper for about seven years. While thus occupied he was asked by Wm. H. Seward, Thurlow Weed, and other leading men of the time, to edit a campaign paper, The Log Cabin, at Albany. Mr. Greeley divided his time between New York and Albany. The

effective campaign carried on by Mr. Greeley in the Log Cabin did much to win William Henry Harrison the election to the presidency. These newspapers made Mr. Greeley known, and gave him considerable distinction and prestige.

The next important event in his life was his marriage on July 5, 1836, to Miss Mary Cheney, a school teacher.

In Mr. Greeley's paper The New Yorker, there appeared, March 18, 1837, a report of a meeting called at City Hall Park to consider the "high prices of the necessaries of life."

In 1838 The Jeffersonian appeared, edited by Horace Greeley.

### TRIBUNE PUBLISHED

On April 10, 1841, he published the first number of The Tribune, a daily with only a few hundred subscribers; it grew from week to week, and it was not long before it became an important factor in American life. In political matters Mr. Greeley was farseeing, fearlessly honest in the expression of his convictions, and was an opponent of the spoils system. He made the Tribune a great power. Greeley had entered upon his thirty-first year when the first number of the Tribune appeared. Charles A. Dana, Whitelaw Reid, George Ripley, Sidney H. Gay, George William Curtis, Henry J. Raymond, John Russell Young, Richard Hildreth, John Hay, Edmund Quincy, Bayard Taylor, George W. Smalley, William Winter, Albert Brisbane, Moncure D. Conway, Margaret Fuller and others who have become famous in journalism and literature, were associated with him on the Tribune.

In his "Recollections of a Busy Life" we read from his own pen: "Fame is a vapor, no man can foresee what a day may bring forth, while those who cheer to-day will often curse to-morrow, and yet I cherish the hope that the Journal I once projected will live and flourish long after I shall have mouldered into forgotten dust, and the stone which covers my ashes may bear to future eyes the still intelligible inscription "Founder of the New York Tribune." In front of the present Tribune building can be seen a life-size bronze sitting figure inscribed "Horace Greeley, Founder of the Tribune."

He had good cause to be proud of his achievements. He made the Tribune the forum for the impartial discussion of great moral questions. He discussed Fourierism and emphasized such portions of that doctrine as would enable the people to procure land for settlement and development, and which treated of co-operative enterprise.

The sincerity of Greeley's advocacy was shown by his making the Tribune a stock concern and dividing his shares with his editors and other assistants on the Tribune.

He also made the Tribune noted as a vehicle for scientific information. He published the lectures of Professor Agassiz and of other

scientists and was the first American journalist who recognized the genius of Charles Dickens. Dickens's writings were published under the nom de plume "Boz" in the Tribune long before he became famous in America. "Barnaby Rudge" and "Little Dorrit" were published as serials in the Tribune.

Greeley utilized the press and the platform as a noble means to accomplish his educational designs by a direct appeal to the people; he was a firm believer in the efficacy of an enlightened public opinion, and in this he was a true disciple of Jefferson. In all his editorial writings the reader felt that he was the object of the editor's personal exhortation; his language was always so simple, so direct, so evidently springing from an honest conviction, that his heart to heart appeal could not fail of a sympathetic response.

Of Greeley's style it has been aptly said:

"It is doubtful if he ever penned a line merely for rhetorical effect, and he has only written when he had something to say. He has covered a wide field of discussion, including politics, history, political economy, agriculture, science, morals, literary criticism, and even religious controversy; and on all these subjects he has shown much keenness of thought. His style is strong, concentrated, and Saxon, sometimes descending into colloquialism. It is the style of the man of action, who aims at immediate effect, and who is careless of ornament or other superficial qualities. His words are half battles. In discussing political questions he is admirable. His knowledge is unequaled in this field, and he magnetizes the dead fact with his rapid and graphic summaries of events. As a statistician he has few superiors, and he marshals figures in a most imposing array."

#### IN CONGRESS.

In 1848 Mr. Greeley served a short term in Congress. The day after his entering Congress he gave notice of his intention to bring in a bill to discourage speculation in the public lands and establish Homesteads for actual settlers. This bill was introduced December 13, 1848. He next defended American manufacturers against the characterization of being "aristocrats" as charged in the President's message. On December 22 there appeared in the Tribune his famous exposé of congressional mileage. On January 2, 1849, he offered a resolution asking for information on the Tariff of 1846 of duties on wool and hemp. January 10 he entered the arena against the slave trade of the District of Columbia, and busied himself with many reform measures during his short term. Webster, Calhoun and Douglas were members of this same Congress.

Mr. Greeley was a staunch friend and admirer of Henry Clay. He writes: "I profoundly loved Clay." He strongly advocated Clay for the presidency. Greeley's influence was so much a part of this period of our country's history, and the lives of Clay, Lincoln, Greeley, and of other statesmen are so intertwined, that one cannot appreciate the life of either without studying the lives of the others.

Mr. Greeley lectured frequently throughout the country on many subjects. He was a great favorite with the farmers and often spoke at country fairs.

His advice, "Go West, Young Man!" was taken by many and proved to be a tremendous stimulus in developing and building up our vast domains west of the Mississippi.

Mr. Greeley was intensely interested in agriculture and farming. He writes: "I should have been a farmer. All my riper tastes incline to that blessed calling whereby the human family and its humble auxiliaries are fed. Its quiet, its segregation from strife, and brawls, and heated rivalries, attract and delight me."

## ON THE FARM.

About the year 1852 Mr. Greeley bought a farm at Chappaqua, Westchester County, N. Y. Mrs. Greeley helped in its choice. This farm contained about 75 acres. It afforded Mr. Greeley rest, quiet, occupation, and pleasure, and was ever the spot that he loved. Mr. Greeley's daughter, Gabrielle Greeley Clendenin, still lives on the farm with her husband, the Rev. Dr. Frank M. Clendenin, and a daughter.

Mrs. Nixola Greeley Smith Ford, a grand-daughter of Horace Greeley, has inherited a love for journalism in which she has made a splendid career. Dr. Horace Greeley and Ida Greeley Smith are grand-children of Horace Greeley.

The beautiful little village of Chappaqua, made famous by Greeley, nestles among the Westchester hills as picturesque as ever. Here may be seen the two rows of evergreen trees set out by Horace Greeley himself. They have flourished and grown so tall that their branches touch and form a beautiful avenue of shade.

## WHEN LINCOLN WAS NOMINATED.

In 1860 Abraham Lincoln was nominated by his party for President. Horace Greeley's vigorous opposition to Seward, whose nomination had been counted a foregone conclusion, was the decisive factor that gave the nomination to Lincoln. Then came the Civil War in which Mr. Greeley's statesmanship and loyalty weighed heavily in favor of the Union cause. Greeley's historic appeal for Emancipation, addressed to President Lincoln through the columns of the Tribune, entitled "The Prayer of Twenty Millions," contained this impassioned request for freedom:

## GREELEY'S DEMAND FOR EMANCIPATION

"On the face of this wide earth, Mr. President, there is not one disinterested, determined, intelligent champion of the Union cause who does not feel that all attempts to put down the Rebellion, and at the same time uphold its inciting cause, are preposterous and futile-that the Rebellion, if crushed out to-morrow, would be renewed within a year if Slavery were left in full vigor-that army officers, who remain to this day devoted to Slavery, can at best be but half-way loyal to the Union-and that every hour of deference to Slavery is an hour of added and deepened peril to the Union. I appeal to the testimony of your Ambassadors in Europe. It is freely at your service, not mine. Ask them to tell you candidly whether the seeming subserviency of your policy to the slaveholding, Slavery-upholding interest, is not the perplexity, the despair, of statesmen of all parties; and be admonished by the general answer! I close as I began, with the statement that what an immense majority of the loyal millions of your countrymen require of you is a frank, declared, unqualified, ungrudging execution of the laws of the land, more especially of the Confiscation Act. That act gives freedom to the slaves of Rebels coming within our lines, or whom those lines may at any time enclose—we ask you to render it due obedience by publicly requiring all your subordinates to recognize and obey it. . . . As one of the millions who would gladly have avoided this struggle at any sacrifice but principle and honor, but who now feel that the triumph of the Union is indispensible not only to the existence of our country, but to the well-being of mankind, I entreat you to render a hearty and unequivocal obedience to the law of the land.

Yours, Horace Greeley.

This letter made a profound impression upon the country and the President, and brought out a letter in reply, famous in the annals of the Civil War, and is here given in full:

"Executive Mansion, Washington, August 22, 1862. "Hon. Horace Greeley:

"Dear Sir: I have just read yours of the 19th, addressed to myself through The New York Tribune. If there be in it any statements or assumptions of fact which I may know to be erroneous, I do not now and here controvert them. If there be in it any inferences which I may believe to be falsely drawn, I do not now and here argue against them. If there be perceptible in it an impatient and dictatorial tone, I waive it in deference to an old friend, whose heart I have always supposed to be right.

"As to the policy I 'seem to be pursuing,' as you say, I had not meant to leave any one in doubt.

"I would save the Union. I would save it the shortest way under the Constitution. The sooner the national authority can be restored, the nearer the Union will be 'the Union as it was.' If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time save slavery, I do not agree with them. If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time destroy slavery, I do not agree with them. My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it; and if I could do it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that. What I do about slavery and the colored race I do because I believe it helps to save this Union; and what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union. I shall do less whenever I shall believe what I am doing hurts the cause, and I shall do more whenever I believe doing more will help the cause. I shall try to correct errors when shown to be errors; and I shall adopt new views so fast as they shall appear to be true views. I have here stated my purpose according to my view of official duty, and I intend no modifications of my oft-expressed personal wish that all men, everywhere, could be free.

"Yours,

"A. LINCOLN."

In about a month from the time of Mr. Greeley's letter. Lincoln issued his "Emancipation Proclamation."

## ON SLAVERY.

Of his battle against slavery one of his biographers says: "The colored race, when it becomes sufficiently educated to appreciate his career, must always recognize him as the chief author of their emancipation from slavery and their equal citizenship." His constant warfare against slavery was well shown by his opposition to the Mexican War, because that meant the annexation of Texas as slave territory. From his own pen in the Tribune, we read: "He who by voice or pen strikes the best blow at the impostures and vices whereby our race is debased and paralyzed may close his eyes in death, consoled and cheered by the reflection that he has done what he could for the emancipation and elevation of his kind."

Mr. Greeley's desire for a speedy close of the war was well-known and representatives of the Confederacy asked his good offices in this matter. Mr. Greeley communicated with President Lincoln, who appointed him as a peace agent of the United States. Mr. Greeley, on finding that the Southern representatives were not clothed with adequate authority, dropped the matter; but the affair was nevertheless

useful, as it brought out President Lincoln's ultimatum that no negotiations would be considered except upon the basis of an absolute and unconditional surrender.

After the close of the war Mr. Greeley signed Jefferson Davis' bail bond—a most heroic act for which at the time he was severely criticised. This was, however, in line with his policy for bringing about a spirit of reconciliation.

To portray justly the great life and career of Horace Greeley, who, next to Benjamin Franklin, is the most typical American our country has produced, would require the writing of volumes. Indeed, the gentle Whittier delighted to call him 'Our Later Franklin." In summing up the magnificent career of so active and noble a life, we cannot do better than to quote the following passage from his book, "Recollections of a Busy Life":

## GIANT WRONGS.

"My life has been busy and anxious, but not joyless. Whether it shall be prolonged few or more years, I am grateful that it has endured so long, and that it has abounded in opportunities for good not wholly unimproved and in experiences of the nobler, as well as the baser, impulses of human nature.

"I have been spared to see the end of giant wrongs, which I once deemed invincible in this century, and to note the silent upspringing and growth of principles and influences which I hail as destined to root out some of the most flagrant and pervading evils that yet remain. I realize that each generation is destined to confront new and peculiar perils—to wrestle with temptations and seductions unknown to its predecessors; yet I trust that progress is a general law of our being, and that the ills and woes of the future shall be less crushing than those of the bloody and hateful past.

"So, looking calmly, yet humbly, for that close of my mortal career which cannot be far distant, I reverently thank God for the blessings vouchsafed me in the past; and, with an awe that is not fear and a consciousness of demerit which does not exclude hope, await the opening before my steps of the gates of the Eternal World."

Just as Greeley's love of mankind had prompted him to prevent war if he could: and, when it came, to have it prosecuted with relentless vigor, that it might be as short as possible, so he was among the first when the war was ended to seek the reunion of the sections in the spirit of brotherly love. He fought for general amnesty for those lately in rebellion, for full suffrage to all men, and for a reconstruction that would develop the industries of the North and South, laid prostrate by the war.

#### THE PRESIDENCY.

When upon the question of reconstruction and the purifying of the public service the Republican party had split, and the Liberal faction of that party had nominated Horace Greeley for President in 1872, and he had also received the nomination of the Democrats, he deemed it his duty to enter upon the race feeling that, if successful, he could carry out his noble aims for the true unification of the country. He did not realize that his running upon a ticket supported by discordant political parties must result in his defeat. The love and reverence the people had for him could not overcome so paradoxical an alliance, and the consequence was but natural.

Horace Greeley's character is well epitomized in Reavis' Biography:

"Go where you will, over the land. Go, if you please, to the capital of your country; go to every department of administration and you will find Horace Greeley looking earnestly and unselfishly to direct the President and his Cabinet officers, or the Congress of your country, in the honest and wise performance of their duties: go to the courts, you will find him urging judges to do justice, and enforce the law. Go to the high seas, and you will find him striving to better the condition of commerce, to make it more profitable and less perilous to those in its employ. Go to the manufacturer and the merchant, and there you will find him alike devoted in aiding to render each of those great branches of human industry more profitable and reciprocal with each other. Go to the church and you will find him pleading with the ministers to deal less in forms and ceremonies, and more in principles and deeds of humanity. Go to the garret and the cellar, to the orphan and the poor, you will find him there pleading for protection and plenty for the sons and daughters of misfortune and beggary, and asking the lawmaker, the wise, the rich, to see to it that none shall go wanting, in nakedness, and in hunger. Go to the schools and colleges and you will find him there, pleading for education for all; pleading for a more practical training and discipline of the sons and daughters of the land. Go to the inhabitant of the log cabin on the frontier, or in the wilderness of the great West, and you will find him there, the friend and benefactor of the farmer and mechanic, the herdsman and tradesmen, teaching all with like earnestness and devotion to right, as he does the wealthy and the great in the cities of civilization. For he is the same devoted and earnest friend to all whether

'On the hilltops
And in Pastures.'

Go to the father and mother and you will find him there, pleading for a more practical training and education of the sons and daughters of the land. Go to the criminal, the victim of the gutter, and the gallows, and you will find him there pleading for mercy, pleading for justice for those erring men and women who have been sinned against more than having sinned. In short, go to every field of honest toil, go to every form and avenue of misfortune and crime, and you will find that Horace Greeley has been there, earnestly and unselfishly striving to reform, to help, and to advance the interests of the individual, the community, society, church, the state, and the nation. Upon all these he has impressed with lasting honor his thoughts and deeds. Millions of human beings have been made wiser and better by the wisdom and teachings of Horace Greeley."

## "A PURE AND FAITHFUL SOUL.

T

"Was there no other way than this,
O faithful soul, to smite with silence those,
Too base for friends, less generous than foes,
The unrelenting pack
That followed thee, and made along thy track
The boor's coarse jest, the slimy serpent's hiss?—
Was there no other way than this?

H

"Ah, they to whom the hatred of a clan Seems nobler than the honesty of man Pause, startled at thy grave, And where they sought to ruin now would save! Their jibes are heard no more And, stammering into truth, subsides the lie: For such a conquest, must thou die, When Life no less had made thee conqueror?

III.

"Too dear the price we pay
Who saw thy patient purpose day by day
Unfolded, that the full design might be
Embodied Love, incarnate Charity,
War's blotches washed away,
And God's impartial justice shown in thee!
We stood beside thee at thy post,
And, knowing nearest, loved thee most:
We would have given our bosoms for a shield
Against the arrows sped
To harm thy wise and gentle head.
But in thy goodness thou wert triply steeled!

We knew—as thou didst, never man forbore: We knew—as thou didst, never man forgave: Art still, O brain, high Duty's patient slave.' O heart, devoid of malice, beat'st no more?

#### IV.

"For all your silenced slanders, give us worse! Renew the loathsome noises of the fight. Forgetfulness of what he did, and spite Of party hate, the Nation's waxing curse, So ye for us preserve One honest man, like him, who will not swerve From what the large heart dictates to the brain; Or, call him back again Who felt, where others planned: Who cast away the mantle of a name And saw his naked nature turned to blame: Who narrower fealties beneath him trod. In stern consistency to God! There is no child in all the land, But might have craved the blessing of his hand: There is no threshold but his feet Might cross, a messenger of counsel sweet, Of peace and patience and forgiving love, Of Toil that bends and Faith that looks above!

#### V.

"In vain! our cry is vain:
We can but turn, pure soul, to thee again.
So much of large beneficence thy mind
For all the race designed.
So much thy heart inclosed of brotherhood
And ardent hope of good,
Thou leavest us thyself in these behind!
We can not grieve as those who do not trust:
We knew thee nearest, loved the most,
And thou, a sacred ghost,
Already risen from thy fallen dust,
Speak'st, as of old, to us: 'Be firm, be pure, be just!'
"Bayard Taylor.

"Gotha, Germany, Dec. 1, 1872."

9

## EXTRACTS FROM GREELEY'S WRITINGS

## Greeley on John Brown:

"There will be enough to heap execration on the memory of these mistaken men. . . . Believing that the way to universal emancipation lies not through insurrection, civil war, and bloodshed, but through peace, discussion, and the quiet diffusion of sentiments of humanity and justice, we deeply regret this outbreak. But, remembering that, if their fault was grievous, grievously have they answered it, we will not by one reproachful word disturb the bloody shrouds wherein John Brown and his compatriots are sleeping. They dared and died for what they felt to be the right, though in a manner which seems to us fatally wrong. Let their epitaphs remain unwritten until the not distant day when no slave shall clank his chains in the shades of Monticello or by the groves of Mt. Vernon."

## From His "American Conflict": ~

"I offer it as my contribution toward a fuller and more vivid realization of the truth that God governs this world by moral laws as active, immutable, and all-pervading as can be operative in any other, and that every collusion or compromise with evil must surely invoke a prompt and signal retribution."

## He thus paints his ideal:"

"A community or little world wherein all freely serve, and all are amply served; wherein each works according to his tastes or needs, and is paid for all he does or brings to pass; wherein education is free and common as air and sunshine; wherein drones and sensualists cannot abide the social atmosphere, but are expelled by a quiet wholesome fermentation; wherein humbugs and charlatans find their level; and naught but actual service, tested by the severest ordeals, can secure approbation, and none but sterling qualities win esteem."

## Greeley on Education:

"Every child should be trained to skill and efficiency in productive labor, and the hours of children should be alternately devoted to labor, study, and recreation . . . not till one has achieved the fullest command, the most varied use of all his faculties and powers, can he be properly said to be educated."

## Greeley's "Hints toward Reforms":

"A true life must be simple in all its elements. Animated by one grand and ennobling impulse, all lesser aspirations find their proper places in harmonious subservience. Simplicity in taste, in appetite, in habits of life, with a corresponding indifference to worldly honors and aggrandizement, is the natural result of the predominance of a

divine and unselfish idea. Under the guidance of such a sentiment, virtue is not an effort, but a law of nature, like gravitation. It is vice alone that seems unaccountable—monstrous—well nigh miraculous. Purity is felt to be as necessary to the mind as health to the body, and its absence alike the inevitable source of pain."

Horace Greeley's Advice to an Ambitious Young Man:

"The best business you can go into you will find on your father's farm, or in his workshop. If you have no family or friends to aid you, and no prospect opened to you there, turn your face to the Great West, and there build up a home and fortune. But dream not of getting suddenly rich by speculation, rapidly by trade, or anyhow by a profession: all these avenues are choked by eager, struggling aspirants, and ten must be trodden down in the press, where one can vault upon his neighbor's shoulders to honor or wealth. Above all, be neither afraid nor ashamed of honest industry; and if you catch yourself fancying anything more respectable than this, be ashamed of it to the last day of your life. Or, if you find yourself shaking more cordially the hand of your cousin the congressman than of your uncle the blacksmith, as such, write yourself down an enemy to the principles of our institutions, and a traitor to the dignity of humanity."

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

The Penn Monthly, January, 1873, page 52:

"His most singular service to the nation has received but very slight notice at the hands of his eulogists, and was but poorly appreciated during his life. We mean his unwearied assertion of the sanctities of family life as the basis of all society."

National Quarterly Review, December, 1872, in an article on Horace Greeley, said:

'He had but one great aim—to promote by voice and pen the greatest good of the greatest number. . . . American slavery, in the days of its power, had no heartier hater than Horace Greeley, no more formidable foe; but yet when at last it lay crushed with the rebellion which it caused, there was no inconsistency in his advocacy of a general amnesty toward its old supporters. . . . And here we are reminded of that characteristic letter, which must ever remain a conspicuous jewel in the life of this man:

"'My friend: Of course I threw away the senatorship in 1866—knowing well that I did so—and did myself great pecuniary harm in 1867 by bailing Jeff. Davis; but suppose I hadn't done either?

"'Either God rules this world, or does not. I believe he does.

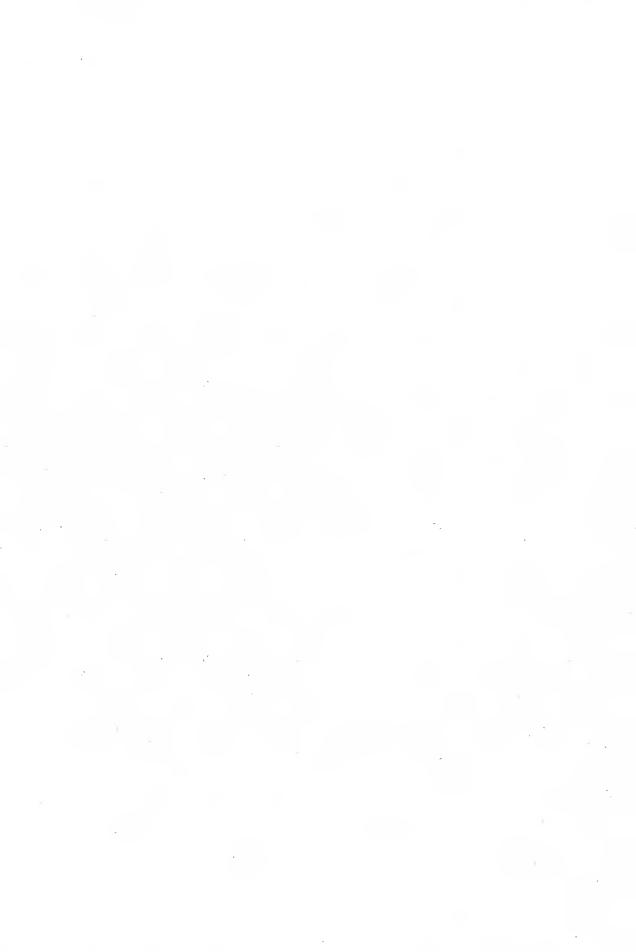
"'Yours,

"' 'Horace Greeley.' "

"The picture of the Vermont boy, stretched upon the floor of his father's cabin reading by the light of the fire; the picture of the awkward 'prentice lad stooping over his 'case' in a dingy New York printing office, while the busy thoughts in that large brain are setting up matter for future articles; the picture of the great editor dealing forth his vehement fulminations against the constituted powers of evil, and making his vigorous appeals to the moral sense of the people; the picture of the genial old man whose face, full of 'sweetness and light,' is bent over a copy of the journal in which the heart, the thought, the work of his life are embodied, and finally the picture of the defeated candidate, led from the grave of his dead wife, himself doomed to swifter following death: these are pictures which will long hold their place in the American heart, and become the theme of many a lesson to the schoolboy of the future."

## Bayard Taylor's Address:

"A life like his cannot be lost. That sleepless intelligence is not extinguished, though the brain which was its implement is here slowly falling to dust; that helping and forbearing love continues, though the heart which it quickened is cold. He lives, not only in the mysterious realm where some power and grander form of activity awaited him, but also as an imperishable influence in the people. Something of him has been absorbed in a multitude of other lives, and will be transmitted to their seed. His true monument is as broad as the land he served. This, which you have erected over his ashes, is the least memorial of his life. But it stands as he himself loved to stand, on a breezy knoll, where he could bathe his brow in the shadows of branches and listen to the music of their leaves."



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